Application. No.: 10/775, 105
Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Canceled).
- 2. (Currently amended) Plastic nut according to claim 4\_7, characterized in that the thickness reduction (17) of the walls (5, 6) is disposed on the side thereof facing the snap-on hooks (10, 11).
- 3. (Currently amended) Plastic nut according to claim  $\pm 7$ , characterized in that the thickness reduction (18) of the walls (7, 8) is disposed on the side thereof facing away from the snap-on hooks (10, 11).
- 4. (Currently amended) Plastic nut according to claim  $+\underline{7}$ , characterized in that the walls (19, 20) each have a plurality of thickness reductions (21, 22), said thickness reductions (21, 22) being disposed alternately on the side facing away from and on the side facing the snap-on hooks (10, 11).
- 5. (Currently amended) Plastic nut according to claim  $\pm 7$ , characterized in that the receiving hole for the screw (4) is in the form of a through-hole (12) in the region of the walls (5, 6; 7, 8; 19, 20) and in the form of a threaded hole (13) in the region of the nut piece (9).

6. (Original) Plastic nut according to claim 5, characterized in that the threaded hole (13) is in the form of a blind hole (16).

7. (Newly Presented) Plastic nut for mounting on a component (1) having a penetration (2) and for use with a screw (4), the plastic nut being insertable into the penetration (2), said plastic nut comprising:

a nut piece (9), the nut piece (9) having a receiving hole (13) for the screw (4), the nut piece (9) defining a longitudinal axis;

a flange (3) for contact with one side of the component (1), the flange (3) having a receiving hole (12);

snap-on hooks (10, 11) disposed for contacting an opposite side of the component (1), said snap-on hooks (10, 11) having upper abutment surfaces for securing the plastic nut to the component (1), said snap-on hooks (10,11) bending away from the longitudinal axis of the nut piece (9) when the screw (4) is inserted, such that said snap-on hooks (10,11) move from (a) a relaxed initial position, wherein the snap-on hooks (10, 11) extend outward a distance from the longitudinal axis such that they fit through the penetration (2) and a distance inward to form a gap therebetween sized less than the receiving hole (12) in the nut piece, to (b) an expanded second position wherein the snap-on hooks (10, 11) spread out and extend perpendicularly a distance outward from the longitudinal axis such that they prevent the

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passage through the penetration (2), and the abutment surfaces are moved away from the

longitudinal axis of the nut piece (9) to a position substantially perpendicular to the

longitudinal axis of the nut piece (9); and

walls (5, 6, 7, 8; 19, 20) disposed adjacent the snap-on hooks (10, 11), said walls (5, 6, 7,

8; 19, 20) extending from the flange (3) to the nut piece (9) and having reductions (17, 18;

21, 22) in their wall thickness disposed in a central region thereof between the flange (3) and

the nut piece (9); and wherein when the screw (4) is tightened, the walls (5, 6, 7, 8; 19, 20)

bend at the thickness reductions (17, 18; 21, 22) such that the flange (3) contacts said one

side of the component (1) and the abutment surfaces of the snap-on hooks (10, 11) contact

said opposite side of the component (1).

8. (Newly Presented) Plastic nut according to claim 7, characterized in that the snap-on

hooks are wedge shaped.